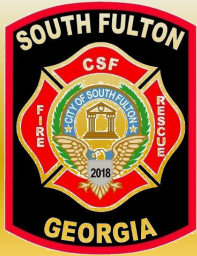


SOUTH FULTON FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT



August, 2018
Volume 1, Issue 6

The 360 Monthly Newsletter

City of South Fulton Inaugural National Night Out



On August 7th, the South Fulton Fire Rescue Department joined with the Police Department and other public safety agencies in support of the City's inaugural National Night Out. The event was held on Old National Highway.

The introduction of National Night Out in 1984 began a nation-wide effort to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, and neighborhood camaraderie. Participation was expanded to include fire and emergency services to education citizens about fire safety and what they can do to protect their homes and families.

City of South Fulton public safety agencies work closely together to heighten crime awareness and support for crime and drug prevention. These collaborative efforts send strong messages to criminals that neighborhoods are working together and fighting back against crime.

The inaugural event proved to be a huge success with great representation by city leaders, employees and citizens.



Inside this issue



- ◆ Chief's Desk
- ◆ Back to School Events
- ◆ Community Events
- ◆ Community Risk Reduction
- ◆ Training and Member Development
- ◆ Around SFFR
- ◆ Changing Hands
- ◆ September Calendar



FIRE CHIEF'S DESK

LARRY FEW, FIRE CHIEF



Fire Rescue International - 2018

During August, Chief Few attended the Fire Rescue International Conference and Expo in Dallas, Texas.

FRI brings together thousands of fire service chiefs and officers from the United States and around the world to learn, network, and collaborate with each other.



Pictured with Chief Dan Eggleston, President of the IAFC

The FRI expo also attracts hundreds of exhibitors who display the latest equipment and products that help increase the efficiency of firefighters and first responders.



Pictured with Chief Gary Ludwig, IAFC 1st Vice-President



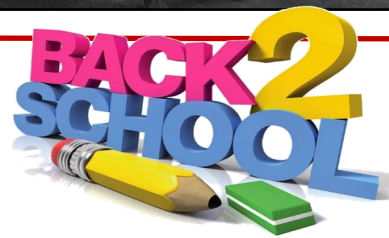
Pictured with Chief Otto Drozd, IAFC 2nd Vice-President



Back to School

In the weeks before returning to the classrooms, back to school events were taking place throughout the City. The South Fulton Fire Rescue Department was delighted to be a part of the celebrations and have the opportunity to engage with the communities and our spirited young citizens.

August 4, 2018 - The crew of Engine 19A participated in a Back to School event sponsored by the Fulton County Housing Authority



August 1, 2018 - The crew of Engine 1C participated in a Community Day/Back to School event at the Hickory Park playground.





Wolf Creek Elementary - Annual Back to School Event

One August 25, 2018, the crew of Engine 3C participated in the Wolf Creek Elementary annual back to school event. Captain James Luster, FF Sammy McClarity, and FF Jeremiah Hay taught the children about fire safety, gave tours of the engine, and even let the children have their turn on the nozzle. It just goes to show that learning can be fun!



BACK TO
SCHOOL





at the South Fulton Library

August 1, 2018 - The crew of Engine 7C had great fun during the summer reading finale at the South Fulton Library on Flat Shoals Road. Moreover, they delivered (and demonstrated) an important message that children and adults alike should always remember.



As FF Chris Lavalais explained, FF Jamel Parham demonstrated how to stop, drop, roll (and cover your face) to the young participants.

The crew also demonstrated their protective gear and explained what each piece was used for and how it protects firefighters. The day concluded with some enthusiastic high-fives all around!



GREAT JOB!





FIRE SAFETY MESSAGE: Make sure children understand the concept of 'stop, drop, and roll'

Stop, drop, and roll is one of the oldest and most well-known fire safety messages, but it's not the only fire safety message you or your family should remember during a fire emergency.

The South Fulton Fire Rescue Department cautions parents that children may get the 'stop, drop and roll' message confused with other equally important home fire safety messages.

As the new school year begins, the SFFRD encourages parents to talk to your children about when to stop, drop, and roll. Teaching children to stop, drop and roll when their clothes are on fire is an important step in ensuring they are fire safe. However, it is also important that young children can differentiate stop, drop and roll from what to do in a house fire. We encourage parents to talk to your children about when stop, drop and roll is necessary, but also the equally important message of "get out and stay out."

Make sure that you and your family know what to do in case a clothing fire occurs:

- If your clothes or body catch fire, then you should stop, drop and roll. Stop immediately, drop to the ground, and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth until the fire is out.
- Immediately remove loose clothing or clothing with elastic bands, as well as belts and jewelry
- Get medical help right away by calling 911. Use cool water to treat any resulting burns immediately for 3 to 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth. Do not apply creams, ointments, or other home remedies.
- Teach children to never play with matches or lighters.
- Have a "kid-free zone" of at least three feet around fireplaces, candles, grills, and stoves.

In addition to talking to your children about when to stop, drop, and roll, make sure they understand the following to keep them safe:

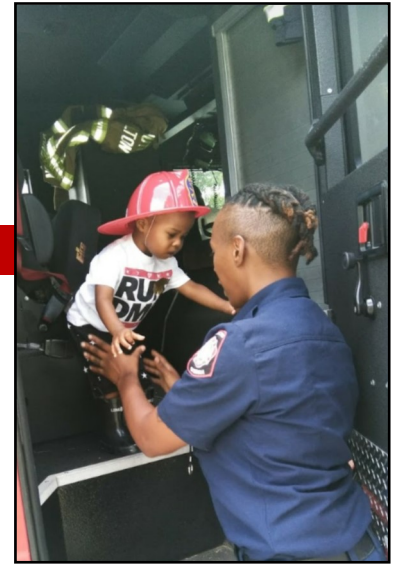
- If a smoke alarm sounds, "get out and stay out"
- If you must escape through smoke, stay low to the ground and move quickly.
- Close doors behind you as you're escaping to help quarantine the fire.
- Never go back into a burning building for any reason.
- Teach your children how to call 911 from a mobile device.





Engine 7C Visits Helping Hands Daycare

August 10, 2018 - While children 3 years and under may not fully understand fire safety messages, it is never too early to teach them that firefighters are their friends. As evident from these photos, FF Chris Lavalais, FF Denisha Langston, and FF Bryant Hoyle made several new friends when they stopped by Helping Hands Day Care. At this young age, the children enjoy sitting in the engine and, of course, wearing a helmet like the firefighters. *Great Job!*





Community Risk Reduction

SAFETY WITH FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS

Oil-based paints, stains, and varnishes are often used for home improvement projects. It is common to use rags to wipe up spills or clean brushes. But wet rags can ignite on their own. They can start a fire if not handled carefully. The same is true of the liquids themselves and gasoline as well.

Facts

- An average of 1,600 home fires per year are caused by instances of spontaneous combustion or chemical reaction
- An average of 800 home fires per year are started when oily rags catch fire or are ignited.

How can rags start a fire?

- The oils commonly used in oil-based paints and stains release heat as they dry. If the heat is not released in the air, it builds up. That is why a pile of oily rags can be dangerous. As the rags dry, the heat is trapped. The heat builds up and finally causes a fire. Be aware that this does not happen with water-based finishes.

How can liquids start a fire?

- Vapors from flammable and combustible liquids can ignite, causing a fire. There are many commonly used flammable liquids. Gasoline, lacquers, and nail polish are just a few examples. There are many commonly used combustible liquids. Paint thinner, kerosene, and oil-based paints and stains are some examples.



Prevent home garage fires.

Store flammable items like oil, gasoline, paints, propane and varnishes in a shed away from your home.

Liquids that can catch fire

- Flammable and combustible liquids should not be used near an open flame. Never smoke when you work with flammable or combustible liquids.
- If you spill a flammable liquid on your clothing, place the clothing outside to dry before laundering.
- Keep oil-based paints and flammable and combustible solvents in their original containers, tightly capped, and never in breakable glass containers.
- Do not store hazardous liquids near any source of heat, sparks, or flame. That includes electric motors, which can spark when they switch on or off.



Gasoline

- Use gasoline only as a motor fuel, never as a solvent or a degreaser and never as a substitute for charcoal lighter.
- Never bring gasoline indoors, even in small quantities.
- Store gasoline ONLY in a container that is sold for that purpose. Make sure the container is tightly capped when not in use.
- NEVER store gasoline containers in a basement or in the occupied space of a building. Keep them in an outbuilding, a detached garage, or a shed outdoors.
- Keep gasoline out of children's sight and reach. Children should never handle gasoline.
- Store only enough gasoline necessary to power equipment and let machinery cool before refueling it.
- Only fill portable gasoline containers outdoors. Place the container on the ground before filling and never fill containers inside a vehicle or in the bed of a pick-up truck.

Oily Rags

- Never leave cleaning rags in a pile. At the end of the day, take the rags outside to dry.
- Hang the rags outside or spread them on the ground. Weigh them down. Do this so they do not blow away.
- Make sure they are not in a pile. Keep them away from buildings.
- Put dried rags in a metal container. Make sure the cover is tight. Fill the container with a water and detergent solution. This will break down the oils.
- Keep containers of oily rags in a cool place. Keep them out of direct sunlight. Keep them away from other heat sources. Check with your local community for information on disposing of them.



Source: NFPA <http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/safety-in-the-home/gasoline-and-propane> and USFA <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/>



Training and Member Development

MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY

A mayday message is used to indicate that a firefighter is in trouble and needs immediate assistance. Analysis of firefighter fatalities and serious injuries has shown that firefighters often wait too long before calling for assistance. Instead of initiating a mayday call when they first get into trouble, firefighters often wait until the situation is absolutely critical before requesting help. This delay could reflect a fear of embarrassment if the situation turns out to be less severe than anticipated, combined with a hope that the firefighter will be able to resolve the problem without assistance. Do not hesitate to call for help when you think you need it.

To initiate a mayday call, the firefighter in trouble will transmit the message “Mayday, Mayday, Mayday” over the radio to initiate the process. The Incident Commander (IC) will interrupt any other communications and direct the person reporting the mayday to proceed. If possible, the person that called the mayday will give a LUNAR report.

LUNAR stands for:

LOCATION: The firefighter’s location in the building. When giving your location, try to give as much information as possible. What side of the structure, A, B, C, or D. Are you near an exit or window?

UNIT: The unit the firefighter is assigned to;

NAME: The name of the firefighter;

ASSIGNMENT: Where the firefighter was last assigned;

RESOURCES: What the firefighter needs to get out of the mayday situation. The IC will repeat this information back and then initiate procedures to rescue the firefighter.

An example of a mayday call:

FIREFIGHTER: MAYDAY...MAYDAY...MAYDAY

[All radio traffic stops.]

IC: Unit calling MAYDAY, go ahead.

FIREFIGHTER: This is Engine 10. We are on the second floor and running out of air. The fire has cut off our escape route. We request a ladder to the window on the Charlie side of the structure so we can evacuate.

IC: Command copy. Engine 10, your escape route cut off by fire. I am sending the RIT team to the Charlie side with a ladder.

Along with the mayday call, the firefighter should activate their pass device as well. Once you have given your location, stay in place if all possible. If you have to move due to conditions, make sure you let command know your new location. If you shelter in place, turn your PASS on, conserve air and turn your flashlight on and point it towards the ceiling.

We all hope that this will never happen, but we have to be prepared if it does. Don’t delay calling mayday because it delays getting help. Stay calm and do your emergency procedures.



Training and Member Development

Task Force Training - RIT and Ladders

Task Force training for the month of August covered Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) and ladders. With the dangers of firefighting, it is imperative that we have RIT teams in place and that they are ready to respond to a mayday or rescue of a down firefighter. NFPA 1561, OSHA C.F.R 1910.134, and South Fulton Fire Rescue SOP 4103 all cover the roles and responsibilities of RIT. A minimum of two firefighters are required to be RIT and they must be ready to deploy in case of an emergency. During the class we covered the tools that may be required if a rescue is needed. Remember, the structure that you are operating in dictates the tools that will be needed. Residential construction versus commercial construction will require different tools. When you are looking for a down firefighter, you will be doing a quick search, not a typical primary search. Stop every so often and listen. You will be listening for a PASS device, a tapping sound, or any sound of distress. Notice what's on the floor, you might see tools or equipment that a firefighter in distress left. Once you locate the firefighter, check to make sure that they have air and identify what level of consciousness they have. If they can walk on their own or if you have to carry them, the goal now is to get out.

The ladder training covered gaining access to a roof via a parapet wall. Parapet walls can be dangerous because of the distance from the wall to the roof. Making the transition from the ladder to the wall takes practice. We should always go from the ladder to a sitting position on the wall. Straddle the wall and then after you have sounded the roof, make the transition to the roof.

What we do is dangerous, but with training we can make our profession safer. The old saying "train as you fight" is very true. Take your training serious and remember the basics.

Be safe; be smart

Captain Richard H. Blackmon





Around SFFRD . . .just your average day!



It happens all too often...

The way dinner looks when its just been placed on the table...and then the tones drop dispatching a call.



Daily apparatus check ...

Every morning, fire crews inspect the apparatus to ensure they are in a state of operational readiness. Any issues are documented and reported to the Maintenance Division.



The Best!

A shout out to Fleet Manager Bobby Gant and Heavy Equipment Mechanic Eric Lee. They are always there when we need them and work their “mechanical magic” on our fleet.



And then there is this...

Sometimes we just don't have the words (but we do have fun!!!)



Assistant City Manager Tours Fire Stations

On August 29th, Assistant City Manager Melanie Winfield spent the morning with Chief Few, the Deputy Chiefs and CoSF Facilities Manager Chris Walker touring various fire stations in the department. During the tour, Ms. Winfield made note of repairs and improvements that are needed for the stations and equipment. She was also afforded the opportunity to meet some of South Fulton's finest. Here she is pictured with the crew of Station 11A (L-R) FF Joaleen Carr, Chris Walker, Captain Donna Dingler, FF Matthew Maxwell, FF Darryl Goodman, FF Evian McClendon and Chief Few.



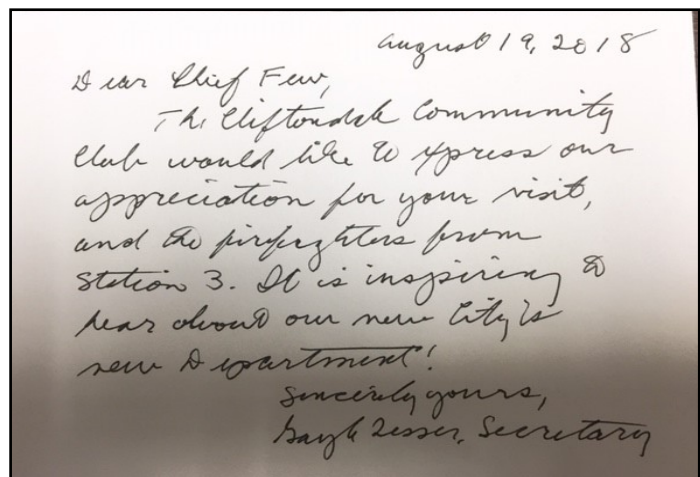
Cedar Grove Mini-Precinct Grand Opening

Our sincere congratulations to our public safety partner on the grand opening of a new mini-precinct in the Cedar Grove Community.

The new South Fulton Police Department precinct celebrated with a grand opening ceremony on August 4th. The crew from nearby Station 15 as well as Battalion 1 attended the event.



Pictured with Mayor William "Bill" Edwards are members of the City Council, and city and community leaders.





Changing Hands: Making the firefighter generation transition

I do a lot of reading from articles published about the fire service and came across this article I thought would be a good read for the Company Officers. It was written by Jim Spell of the Vail (Colo.) Fire & Emergency Services. I hope you enjoy and learn something from it. (and of course, I put my two cents in at the end)

Many articles have been written about the challenges of transferring fire department organizations from peer group to peer group, from Traditionalist, to Baby Boomers to Millennials and beyond.

Regardless of these generational description, the challenge is not so much defining a person's era, as it is the environmental and performance demands made upon each firefighter and how such stresses are communicated and interpreted.

Collectively summarizing every firefighter into an era-driven category while diminishing an individual's ability to change and grow is a critical mistake the fire service cannot make. As difficult as it may be for some, given today's ever-increasing technology and the enduring and omnipresent media exposure, we must learn from and rely on a new generation of firefighters if our profession is to progress and, more importantly, endure.

As is true for any family growing up, today's fire service is experiencing a widening gulf in attitude by generation. This current generation discrepancy has become a critical mass of misinterpretations and weakened opportunities.

As swing music is to rock and roll, is to rap, there is the predictable breach in generational crossover messaging.

Early on, firefighters came from a working-class background. These were the folks that worked for a living and worked even harder in their spare time. After World War II and Korea, it was an easy transition from blue collar to a full uniform of the same hue.

Whether these firefighters were preciously electricians, plumbers, construction workers, welders or soldiers, their knowledge and physicality were completely compatible with the skills needed to negotiate structure fires, vehicle extrications and EMS calls. For this generation, strength, honor and the dedicated work ethic of public service became the functional definition of firefighter.

Continuing in this blue-collar tradition, the next generation sustained the skills competence of the working class and the confidence to use them. This made for great, if not socially cultured, firefighters. Defined by Father Time, the generational relevance of these firefighters was limited only by the ability to solve the physical challenges of the job: advancing hose, moving ladders and holding their breath as they moved toward the dragon while wearing rubber lined coats and thigh high, felt-lined rubber boots.

As the 20th century starts, we find a new breed of firefighters. The baby boomers start to fade out as they try to hammer their generation's ethics and roots into the next generation of firefighters. Now, we have color T. V's, MTV (which aired 1 hour a day) and arcades. With the innovation of the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and the increased protection of vapor barriers in full bunkers, strategies and fire tactics start to change as we are now able to function in that hazardous environment longer. We have now gone from a Fundamentals of Fire Fighting Skills pamphlet to a book of over 700 pages.



Past generations still in service must realize that every generation has a different response environment defined by their unique influences. While fire departments have gone from call boxes to circuit board zones to computer analyzing alarms like magic boxes, many of us were still born before color T.V. and rabbit ear antennas.

The key to the new generation of firefighters is guidance by reason and a clear understanding of their insatiable need for explanation. Common sense is no longer common. We grew up working with our callused hands and sore muscle to find the new firefighter with calluses thumbs and needing more breaks to include checking their social media page.


This new generation does not have mechanical skills that we have. And my favorite, not knowing how to crank a chain saw or know the difference between a 2-stroke versus a 4-stroke motor or mixed gas versus regular gas. For those of us that have assisted training recruits for the last 5-10 years, know what I mean. Can I get an AMEN!!

With this said, we should not get frustrated with their lack of knowledge or experience of laborious work as we know it. This is the next generation of firefighters that we must pass on as much as we can, not so that they know how to crank a chain saw, but have the ability to know how to use it.

It has been my experience, when I was a rookie, that the “old guys” did not always pass on everything they knew. Whether because they thought we hadn’t earned their knowledge or the fear of being replaced by the new firefighters. We cannot be like them.

Our occupation will never get away from putting the wet stuff on the hot stuff, which means we will put people in harm’s way to stabilize a hazardous environment or save a life.

A few years ago, during live fire training, we (live fire instructors) were given T-shirts that had Suck it up

Butter Cup on the front with a little rubber duck . Those words offended some, but they did not think about what it meant. In our occupation there will be times that you will have to find that “EXTRA” or push yourself beyond your abilities to make that save, or evacuate from a hazardous condition. So, when the time comes, and it will, I will say to you, Suck it up Butter Cup and get-ir-done!

I challenge all officers to pass on your knowledge and train your firefighters and use every incident as a training moment to help our next generation of firefighters. Pass on our history and values of the fire service because YES, they are our replacements.

Let’s help them succeed and ensure that they return to their families when their shift ends.

Pass it On





Captain Ralph Patterson (The Gunny)



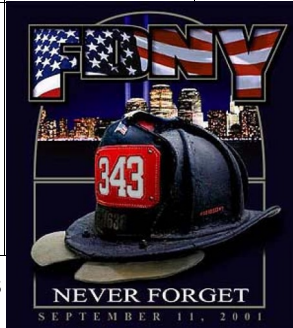


September 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3 	4	5	6 Keith Tinsley*	7	8
9	10	11 City Council Meeting 7:00 pm 	12	13 Eric Patterson*	14	15 Terrance Gordon*
16 Andrew Meredith*	17	18	19 Tim Mikos*	20	21 Tim Brown*	22 William Sullen* 
23	24	25 Tim Rohner* City Council Meeting 7:00 pm 	26 Eric Anderson* LaTonya Teasley*	27	28 Jerrell Mumford*	29

30
Steve Morton*



As September 11th approaches, we are reminded of the 2,996 victims killed in the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and United Airlines Flight 93 including:

- 343 firefighters
- 60 police officers
- 8 EMTs and paramedics from private EMS
- 1 patrolman from the NYC Patrol
- 2,584 other innocent victims

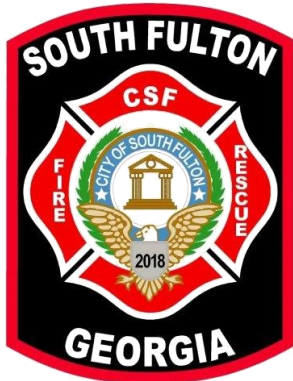
*Indicates Happy Birthday Wishes



South Fulton Fire Rescue Department

Fire Headquarters
5440 Fulton Industrial Blvd.
Atlanta, Georgia 30336

EMERGENCY: Dial 911



Our Mission

To provide fire, life safety, and support services that are relationship focused and results oriented.

Our Motto

Service to all; second to none

Editor: Penny Wolfe

penny.wolfe@cityofsouthfultonga.gov

final thoughts...

- Take pride in how far you have come and have faith in how far you can go.
- If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough.
- Spending today complaining about yesterday won't make tomorrow any better.
- Sometimes the most powerful thing you can say is nothing at all.
- To argue with a person who has renounced the use of reason is like administering medicine to the dead.
- The attitude you bring to the day is what the day will bring to you.
- The greatest challenge in life is discovering who you are. The second greatest is being happy with what you find.
- There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.
- Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.
- It takes years to build a good reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you keep this in mind, you may rethink some of your decisions.
- Word of mouth is very powerful.
- Being positive won't guarantee that you will succeed, but being negative will guarantee that you won't.

...stay safe!